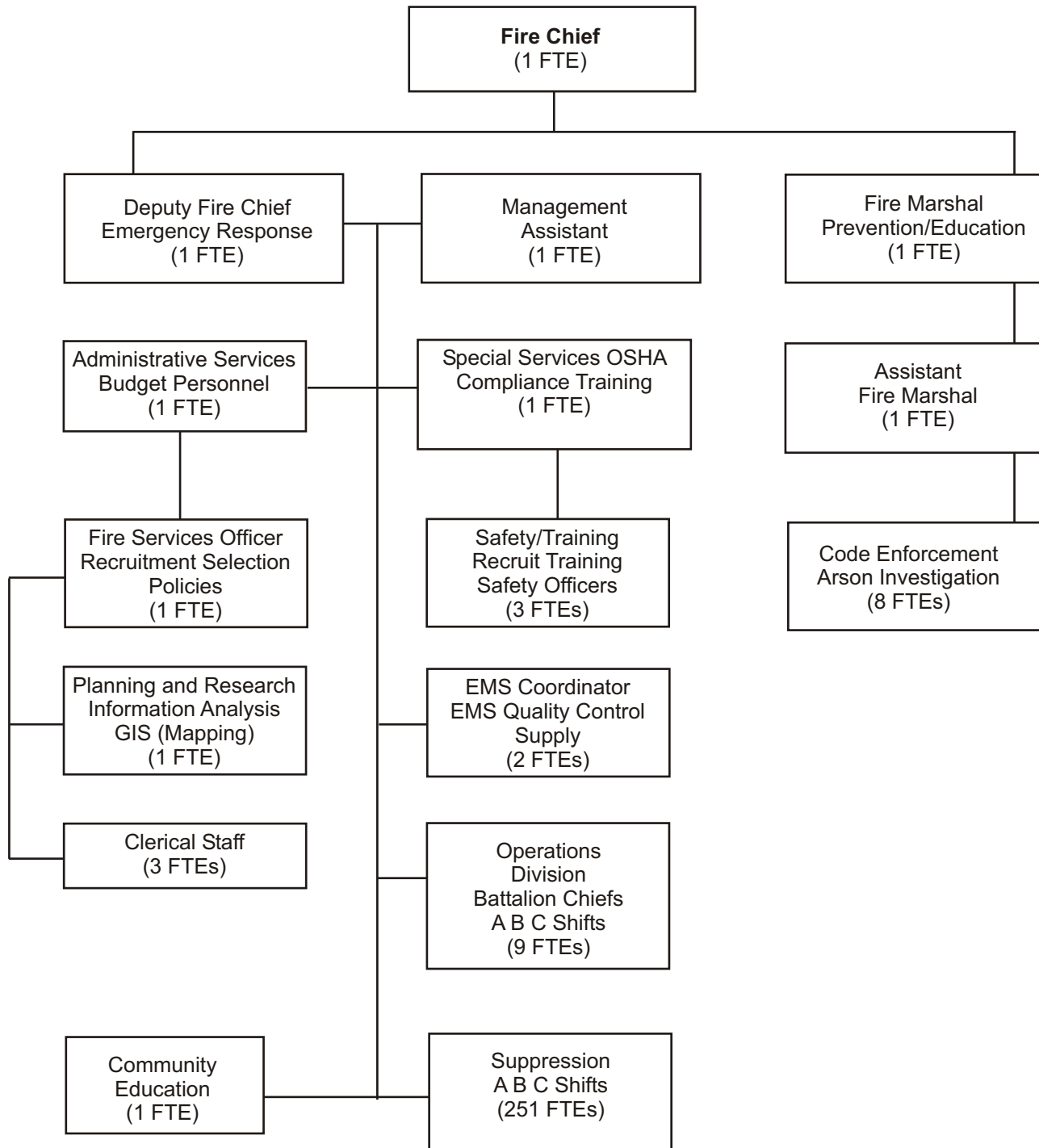




Fire Department

(286 FTEs)



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mission:

To prevent harm, stay safe, and seek opportunities to provide quality service.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administration Division

\$788,567
10 FTEs

The Fire Administration Division coordinates and supervises the fire department. The division is responsible for fiscal planning, records management, implementation and training for technology advancements, personnel management, and resource maintenance and management. This division also is responsible for recommending and implementing management policies and procedures for daily operations of the department under the direction of the Fire Chief.

Safety and Training

\$463,964
4 FTEs

The Safety and Training Division provides for the training, occupational safety, and wellness of fire department personnel through entry level and advanced in-service training programs, accident investigation, and wellness evaluations. This division functions to provide a safe work environment, maintain current certifications of all operations personnel, and monitor physical fitness levels of operations personnel.

Fire Suppression and Emergency Response

\$16,726,600
261 FTEs

Fire Suppression provides comprehensive fire related emergency response to the citizens of Durham, thereby minimizing the loss of life and destruction of property through the rapid deployment of trained personnel and appropriate equipment. Service is currently provided by 260+ trained fire/rescue personnel strategically placed throughout the City and through service contracts with volunteer fire departments. Personnel respond to over 17,000 emergency calls a year with an average response time of 4.3 minutes.

The Emergency Medical Services program provides Advanced Life Support with emergency medical first responders, at the Emergency Medical Technician-Defibrillation (EMT-D) and Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate (EMT-I) level, to a variety of medical emergencies within the City. All fire department apparatus are equipped with emergency medical supplies and semi-automatic defibrillators used to stabilize and/or resuscitate patients until the arrival of paramedic personnel on the scene. Early emergency medical intervention by the Fire Department helps to protect the Citizens of Durham from further harm.

The Hazardous Materials Team provides emergency response to and the identification of both known and unknown chemical and biological substances released into the environment. These personnel are specially trained to mitigate chemical emergencies. This program supports the goals of safety by stopping chemical releases at the earliest possible stage and protecting our citizens and our City's natural assets. The Hazardous Materials Team is staffed with technicians trained to identify, isolate, and mitigate most common hazardous material spills or leaks. They have the technology to interface with state and national resources to assist in their efforts. This program is provided to minimize the harmful effects of toxic releases on both people and the environment of Durham. The program operates under the requirements as set forth in state and federal OSHA standards, particularly 29CFR1910.120.

The Tactical Rescue Team provides for the rescue of persons entrapped and/or injured beyond the scope of normal fire department operations. These specialized rescues may involve high/low angle, trench, swift water, vehicle, structural collapse, and confined space rescue emergencies.

Fire Prevention Bureau

\$662,921
11 FTEs

The Fire Prevention Bureau provides comprehensive enforcement of mandated fire and life safety codes and regulations including the inspections of properties for fire code violations. Responsibilities include regulating the design and implementation of building features and fire protection systems. The purpose of this division is to prevent and/or reduce the loss of life and injury, and property damage due to fire in commercial, factory, institutional, business, educational, mercantile, and assembly occupancies.

The Fire Investigation Team provides fire cause and origin determination, and the investigation of all fires of a suspicious nature. Clearance of arson crimes remains a high priority for the Fire Prevention Bureau and is in alignment with the City's efforts to investigate and solve cases involving suspicious fires. The program supports the City Council goal of making all of our citizens safe from the crime of arson.

The Community Fire Education program provides educational programs related to the causes and the prevention of fire and burn injuries in the community. Emphasis is placed on targeting areas in the community that are experiencing the greatest hazards from fire emergencies and those that have a history of emergency medical calls for service. The program encourages a strong link between the Fire Department and the community by instituting outreach programs such as the "Risk Watch" and the "Learn Not to Burn" program, smoke detector campaigns, fire extinguisher training, fire safety training, blood pressure checks, and programs for seniors involving their health and fire safety.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

	Actual FY 2002-03	Adopted FY 2003-04	Estimated FY 2003-04	Adopted FY 2004-05	Change
Appropriations					
Personal Services	\$ 13,955,322	\$ 14,460,508	\$ 14,186,874	\$ 15,320,801	5.9%
Operating	1,574,505	1,863,369	1,836,800	1,975,559	6.0%
Capital	119,244	1,010,933	1,010,933	1,312,000	29.8%
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to Other Funds	17,220	33,692	33,692	33,692	0.0%
Total Appropriations	\$ 15,666,291	\$ 17,368,502	\$ 17,068,299	\$ 18,642,052	7.3%
Full Time Equivalents	286	285	285	286	1
Part Time	-	-	-	-	-
Revenues					
Discretionary	\$ 14,602,878	\$ 16,374,033	\$ 16,073,830	\$ 17,647,583	7.8%
Program	1,063,413	994,469	994,469	994,469	0.0%
Total Revenues	\$ 15,666,291	\$ 17,368,502	\$ 17,068,299	\$ 18,642,052	7.3%

BUDGET ISSUES FOR FY 2004-05

- Improving infrastructure by installing generators at facilities currently lacking this item.
- Implementing the fire apparatus replacement schedule developed in FY 2002-03.
- Continuing department focus on preparation for major catastrophic events.
- Planned opening of Fire Station No. 8 in the Oak Grove community.
- Completing implementation of the National Fire Incident Reporting Survey software system.
- Maintaining current level of service delivery.
- Implementing Public Safety Technology upgrade.

UNFUNDED OR UNDERFUNDED ITEMS

- Generator for Fire Administration Building \$60,000

COMPLETED INITIATIVES FOR FY 2003-04

- Implemented third Battalion in fire operations.
- Planned delivery of one pumper and one combination ladder/pumper before the end of FY 04.
- Applied for 2004 Fire Act Prevention Grant.
- Secured land and received Development Review Board approval for Fire Station No. 8.
- Selected tentative site location for Fire Station No. 16 on Farrington Road.
- Conducted many multi-agency Urban Search and Rescue training sessions with Cary, Chapel Hill, and Raleigh.
- Completed recruitment, hiring, training, and graduation of Fire Academy 17.
- Implemented the incident reporting module of the National Fire Incident Reporting System.

DEPARTMENT INITIATIVES FOR FY 2004-05

- Continue the fire department accreditation process through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.
- Implement FEMA Risk Hazard and Value Evaluation.
- Continue participation in the regional Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR) in conjunction with the fire departments from Raleigh, Cary, and Chapel Hill.
- Continue our planned Fire Apparatus Replacement Schedule.
- Increase courtesy fire inspection initiative in one and two family dwellings.
- Open and occupy Fire Station No. 8.
- Design and start construction of Fire Station No. 16.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES FOR FY 2004-05

GOAL: *To provide the citizens of Durham with well-trained emergency medical services personnel.*

OBJECTIVE: To maintain skill levels to 90% or better score on EMS quarterly skills testing. The North Carolina Department of Emergency Medical Services requires a 70% score.

STRATEGY: To provide in-service training programs through satellite and centralized training.

MEASURE:	Actual FY 2003	Adopted FY 2004	Estimated FY 2004	Adopted FY 2005
EMS skills level average on written test	90%	95%	95%	95%

GOAL: *To maintain a highly responsive and effective fire suppression force helping to ensure all Durham citizens are safe.*

OBJECTIVE: To confine structure fires to the room of origin 80% of the time. The International City County Management Association (ICMA) reports that the national average is 40%.

STRATEGY: To employ rapid response and aggressive interior fire attacks when feasible, to conduct routine critiques to improve strategy and tactics and to measure for performance.

MEASURE:	Actual FY 2003	Adopted FY 2004	Estimated FY 2004	Adopted FY 2005
% of fires confined to room of origin	80%	80%	86%	80%

OBJECTIVE: To decrease the time operational personnel require preparing to respond to calls with emergency lights and siren activated to under one minute 90% of the time.

STRATEGY: To monitor the time from the receipt of an emergency call to the company officer calling enroute by monthly review of fire reports. Establish minimum time standards for personnel to get dressed with protective equipment prior to getting on apparatus. Report findings to operations division Battalion Chiefs for review and investigation of irregularities.

MEASURE:	Actual FY 2003	Adopted FY 2004	Estimated FY 2004	Adopted FY 2005
% turn-out time less than one minute (time of dispatch to time enroute)	94%	90%	94%	94%

OBJECTIVE: To maintain the average response time of all high priority emergency calls from the point of units calling enroute to arrival of first unit on scene to less than four minutes 80% of the time.

STRATEGY: To monitor the time from the fire apparatus calling “enroute” to the arrival of the first unit on the scene of an emergency by monthly review of fire reports. Report findings to operations division Battalion Chiefs for review and investigation of irregularities. Provide emergency vehicle operations course to enhance safe and efficient responses.

MEASURE:	Actual FY 2003	Adopted FY 2004	Estimated FY 2004	Adopted FY 2005
% of responses to high priority emergency calls in 4 minutes or less	77%	80%	77%	80%

GOAL: To combat arson fires through effective investigation, cooperation with other agencies, and incorporating citizen participation leading to the arrest and conviction of arson related criminals. These activities work to ensure that every citizen in Durham has access to safe housing.

OBJECTIVE: To utilize the latest in investigative techniques and technology in combating arson related crimes.

STRATEGY: Minimum 30% clearance rate for arson fires.

MEASURE:	Actual FY 2003	Adopted FY 2004	Estimated FY 2004	Adopted FY 2005
% of Arson Fires Cleared	50%	40%	58%	50%

GOAL: To ensure that the citizens of the City of Durham are safe from fire in the work place and continue to support a healthy economy and aesthetic beauty in our city.

OBJECTIVE: To reduce the number of fire related emergencies in businesses, institutions, educational and mercantile facilities.

STRATEGY: To continue aggressive fire inspections on regulated facilities and to measure the effectiveness of fire inspections versus fire related emergencies. Statistics will be kept on the number of regulated facilities inspected per year versus the number of fire emergencies that occur in regulated facility types. The minimum frequency of inspections is mandated by the state general statute. This data will be used to determine future fire prevention and code enforcement plans of action.

MEASURE:	Actual FY 2004	Adopted FY 2004	Estimated FY 2005	Adopted FY 2005
	Inspections	Fire Emergencies	Inspections	Fire Emergencies
Assembly	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD
Educational	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD
Medical	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD
Mercantile	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD
Office	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD
Industrial	N/A	N/A	TBD	TBD